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13 September 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : Unresolved Problems Identified During the Special Clandestine Services Orientation Course

REFERENCE : Memorandum for Comptroller from Assistant Deputy Director (Support) dated 8 August 1955, Subject: Same as above

1. Contents of paragraph 2 of the referenced memorandum leads this Office to the conclusion that the information you have received concerning the discussions in the "Special Clandestine Services Orientation Course" concerning accounting requirements levied upon the case officer is different from our appraisal and summation of such discussions.

2. It was pointed out in the course by Comptroller representatives (including the Comptroller, Deputy Comptroller, and the Chief, Finance Division) that the accounting requirements of the Comptroller's Office are about as simple as can be levied unless there were no accountings of any sort required. Present accounting for funds by a case officer consists of listing on a very simple form (33-82), individual expenditures supported by receipts or a certificate in lieu of a receipt.

3. It was found during the discussions that actually the complaint of the case officers is with respect to operational requirements (principally concerning FI projects) which have been misconstrued by the case officers and others to be the requirements levied by the Office of the Comptroller. As a matter of fact, as pointed out by both the Comptroller representatives and the Chief, Audit Staff, both the Office of the Comptroller and the Audit Staff have attempted to persuade the headquarters operating officials to reduce reporting and control requirements with respect to FI projects and to decentralize more responsibility and control to field stations with respect to such projects. However, the operating officials have consistently maintained that such requirements are necessary and that very little change can be made with respect to them.

4. In the last sentence of paragraph 2 you stated that it is your understanding that discussion during the course brought out that the work load problem concerning case officers can be solved by drawing up definite sets of accounting requirements specifically tailored to the size and needs of the station. We agree that Class B station accounting requirements can be further simplified and the persons participating in the course were advised that the Office of the Comptroller is in the process of revising the Class B station accounting system. However, it is not our belief that such revision will materially assist the case officer or reduce his work load.

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/s/

E. R. SAUNDERS
Comptroller

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